

DONOVAN DELAYS RETURN TO CUBA

But Prisoner Negotiations
Will Be Continued

By DAVID ANDERSON

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SYRACUSE, N. Y., Oct. 25—

James P. Donovan, the Democratic Liberal candidate for the Senate, said today that negotiations for the release of invasion prisoners in Cuba would continue despite the current crisis.

Mr. Donovan, who is general counsel for a private group of Americans conducting negotiations for the release of 1,113 prisoners, made the statement after a number of urgent telephone calls to Washington and New York.

During the day, between campaign speaking engagements here and at near-by Cortland, Mr. Donovan indicated that he might be called back to New York at any time. He said privately that if he was needed in Havana for talks, he would return immediately.

Tonight, however, he said he had instructed Alvredo Sanchez, chairman of the Cuban Families Committee for Liberation of Prisoners of War, to conduct the talks with the Castro Government in Havana.

Mr. Donovan said it would be "suicidal" for him to go to Cuba at this time. He added that he would wait until tensions eased before returning to the island.

"I've been talking half the night with people on the committee, trying to line up a course of action," he said here today. "The timing of this is vital. Essentially, it is up to the Cuban Government and, remember, I cannot move myself without the full approval of our Administration."

He said he believed the blockade of Cuba by President Kennedy "has not rendered my mission impossible," although the situation has been "tremendously aggravated and is now certainly explosive."

Mr. Donovan, handicapped with a sore throat, is being welcomed with warmth wherever he goes. As a campaigner, he presents problems for his hosts, a succession of Democratic county chairmen. Relaxed, informal, refusing at all times to be hurried, he is seemingly unaware that clocks exist.

"The Castro government operates on a day-to-day basis, now as in the past, so there is no telling what it will do," Mr. Donovan continued.

One point needs clarifying, he said. The \$67,000 worth of supplies would be worth that amount for the United States compared to a more to Premier Castro because they would be in use in Cuba. No Federal funds are being used for the supplies, Mr. Donovan added. The committee has been granted a tax-deductible status to encourage contributions, he said. He addressed a luncheon

meeting of the Citizens for Donovan Committee in Syracuse. Students at LeMoyne College and two student groups at Syracuse University and party leaders at a dinner in Rome. Mr. Donovan is scheduled to resume his campaigning in New York tomorrow.

Backers Give Position

Mrs. Francis B. Bushey of Manhasset, who has formed an Independent Citizens Committee for Donovan, said yesterday the committee had been organized under the chairmanship of Dr. John D. Naples of Buffalo, treasurer of the Erie County Democratic Committee.

Mrs. Bushey noted in a statement that Mr. Donovan was the son of a physician, and said the candidate "has repeatedly said the solution to health care problems resides in free enterprise."

A spokesman for Mr. Donovan said the word "conservative" did not appear in a fund-raising letter Mrs. Bushey's committee is circulating. The New York Times on Thursday reported that the letter described Mr. Donovan's views as "conservative" with respect to medical care and other questions.

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